

NEW BRITAIN HIGH SCHOOL

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Red Guidance

Awilda Aponte
Geno Ayala
Judyta Leary
Amy McGloin
Patrick Morrell
Pat Cassidy, Secretary

February 25, 2018

My name is Geno Ayala, and I have been a School Counselor at New Britain High School for 10 years. I also graduated from NBHS in 1989. Returning as a School Counselor to my alma mater has provided me the unique insight into what a Guidance Counselor did then, and what a School Counselor does now. Our world has changed drastically, especially in education. Where Guidance Counselors once led students towards post-secondary education, employment and/or military service School Counselors now counsel students academically, emotionally and college and career ready. We collaborate with multiple partners, including Social Workers, teachers, outside community agencies, parents, law enforcement, administration, colleges/universities, career education programs and employers. At NBHS School Counselors engage students one-to-one, in groups, at Special Ed PPT meetings, 504 Plan meetings, in the classroom, and in the community through external partners.

Please support Senate Bill 186- An Act Concerning School Counselors. It is time we not only acknowledge the multi-dimensional work done by School Counselors, but also use language and provide funding to fully support the developmental model of counseling in our schools. We live in tough times. School Counselors work at the hub of an intricate wheel. Students are at the center of that wheel, and need School Counselors, like they need teachers, to maneuver the educational landscape successfully.

Appreciate your support!

Sincerely,
Mr. Geno Ayala
NBHS School Counselor
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